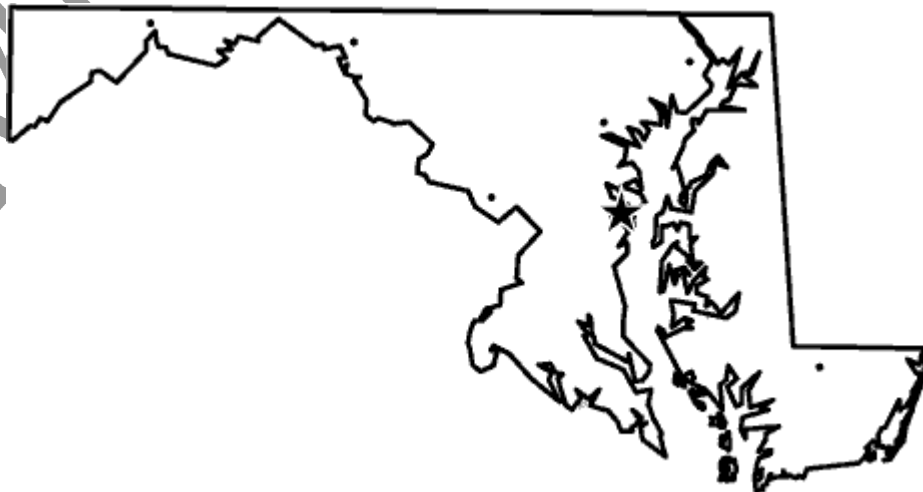


Tests for Higher Standards

READING/ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



GRADE LEVEL TEST
FOR THE MARYLAND SCHOOL ASSESSMENT

Grade 3

Part I

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The Lion and the Mosquito

- 1 Once upon a time . . . a tiny mosquito started to buzz round a lion he met.
- 2 "Go away!" said the sleepy lion. He smacked his own cheek as he tried to drive the insect away.
- 3 "Why should I?" demanded the mosquito. "You're king of the jungle, not of the air! I'll fly wherever I want and land wherever I please." And then he tickled the lion's ear.
- 4 The lion tried to slap at the insect, but hit his own ears instead. The mosquito easily got away.
- 5 Then the lion said, "I can't feel it any more. Maybe I squashed it, or maybe it flew away."
- 6 At just that moment, the irritating buzz began again. This time the mosquito flew into the lion's nose.
- 7 Wild with rage, the lion leaped to his hind legs and started to rain punches on his own nose. The insect, safe inside, refused to budge.
- 8 With a swollen nose and watery eyes, the lion gave a giant sneeze, blasting the mosquito out. The mosquito was angry, so he began to attack again: BUZZ . . . BUZZZ! . . . it whizzed round the lion's head.
- 9 Large and tough as the lion was, he could not get rid of the mosquito. He roared fiercely.
- 10 At the sound of the lion's voice, all the forest creatures ran away in fear. The mosquito, however, laughed and said, "You are the king of the jungle! But you have been foiled by a tiny mosquito like me!" Then he laughed again and flew away.
- 11 But he did not see the spider's web that was near. He flew into it and was caught. He turned and twisted, but he could not escape.
- 12 "Bah!" said the spider, as he ate the mosquito. "This tiny mosquito isn't much to get excited about, but it is better than nothing."
- 13 And that's what became of the mosquito that foiled the lion!

3-3.A.3.f

1. Who tells the story of “The Lion and the Mosquito”?

- A a mosquito
- B a lion
- C a spider
- D a narrator

3-3.A.6.a

2. A moral in this story is

- A Don't be too sure of yourself.
- B Don't get excited about nothing.
- C Bigger is always better.
- D Always rely on yourself.

3-3.A.3.a

3. If the lion decides to write about the mosquito's life, he will be writing

- A an autobiography.
- B a biography.
- C newspaper article.
- D a movie.

3-3.A.3.b

4. In your own words, why does the spider eat the mosquito?

3-3.A.3.b

5. Which statement is true?

- A The lion has a problem and he solves it.
- B The mosquito solves a big problem for the lion.
- C The spider has a problem that the lion creates.
- D The spider solves the lion's problem by accident.

3-1.D.3.a

6. In paragraph 7 of the story, we read that the lion “started to rain punches on his own nose.”

The sentence compares the punches to a

- A lion.
- B spider.
- C storm.
- D jungle.

3-1.D.2.b

7. The mosquito laughs and says, "You are the king of the jungle! But you have been foiled by a tiny mosquito like me!"

In this sentence, foiled most likely means

- A papered.
- B delighted.
- C beaten.
- D eaten.

3-3.A.7.d

8. In paragraph 8, the word BUZZ is an example of

- A simile.
- B metaphor.
- C personification.
- D onomatopoeia .

Molly's Flower Garden

(1) Molly was eight years old the year she spent the summer with her Aunt Catherine. Her parents took a six-week trip to Europe and sent Molly to her aunt's house. She was very upset about not being able to spend the summer with her friends at the neighborhood pool like she did every summer.

(2) Molly's Aunt Catherine did everything she could to make her happy. She took her to the park, the zoo, and even took her shopping, but Molly continued to stay unhappy.

(3) One afternoon, Catherine noticed that Molly was watching her as she weeded her flower garden. "Come help me pull up these tough weeds, Molly," Catherine called out. Molly slowly walked out to the garden and began looking closely at the flowers.

(4) "What kind are these?" she asked Catherine pointing to small yellow flowers on a tall stalk.

(5) "Those are called Snap Dragons," Aunt Catherine replied. "Do you want some of my leftover seeds to plant in these old plastic containers?"

(6) Molly's eyes shone as she watched her aunt pull out little white envelopes with different flowers on the covers. She nodded that she would like some.

(7) Aunt Catherine and Molly spent the rest of that afternoon and the next several days making a flower garden for Molly. They watered her little garden everyday. The stem and roots started growing first. Then one day, Molly noticed a tiny leaf.

(8) When Molly's parents returned from their trip, she couldn't wait to show them her new flower garden. Aunt Catherine explained to Molly how to re-plant her flowers when she got home. Molly hugged Aunt Catherine as hard as she could and thanked her for the best summer ever.



3-3.A.3.b

9. Why was Molly unhappy at first?

- A She wanted to go with her parents to Europe.
- B She did not like her Aunt Catherine.
- C She didn't like flowers.
- D She wanted to go swimming with her friends at home.

3-3.A.3.b

10. Where did Aunt Catherine not take Molly?

- A the pool
- B the zoo
- C the park
- D shopping

3-3.A.3.b

11. What did Molly notice first after she planted her seeds?

- A the envelope they were in
- B the stems and the roots
- C a tiny leaf
- D a flower

3-1.D.2.b

12. What does the word stalk mean in this story?

- A to follow someone
- B piece of string
- C a thick stem
- D piece of grass

3-3.A.3.a

13. What type of story is this?

- A a biography
- B a poem
- C folktale
- D fiction

3-5.A.2.b

14. What does the word re-plant in paragraph 8 mean?

- A plant again
- B not plant
- C planted wrong
- D never planted

3-1.B.1.a

15. The word tough in paragraph 3 has the same vowel sound as

- A boat
- B wrote
- C bought
- D cut

3-1.D.2.b

16. What does the word shone mean in paragraph 6?

- A looked boring
- B looked excited
- C looked sad
- D seemed upset

3-3.A.8.b

17. In a sentence or two, do you think Molly will plant her own garden when she returns home? Use examples from the passage.

Susan B. Anthony

(1) Susan B. Anthony is best remembered for fighting to give women equal rights. Susan was born in Adams, Massachusetts. Susan and her family were Quakers, which means they believed in peace and fairness. When Susan was a little girl, her family moved to Battenville, New York where her father was a managing partner for a large cloth mill. She lived with her mother, father, her 3 sisters, and 2 brothers.



(2) Susan started her first job when she was only 12 years old. She helped her father in the mill. When Susan turned 15, she started teaching. She taught small children at a school her father started. Susan taught in many schools over the next few years. She used the money she made to help her father and his business.

(3) A few years later, Susan and her family moved again. They moved to Rochester, New York. At this time, many people owned slaves. Susan did not like slavery. She would have bent over backwards to stop slavery. Susan did everything she could to end it. She even wrote her own newspaper. That was not enough for Susan. She wanted to vote, too. She wanted to vote for people who fought against slavery. But she could not vote. In fact, during this time, women were not allowed to vote at all in America.

(4) It was her dream that women should be able to vote just like men. Susan decided to fight for women's suffrage – the right to vote. She spent the rest of her life fighting for this right. Sadly, she never lived to see her dream come true. Susan died 14 years before women were given the right to vote.

(5) Today, Susan B. Anthony is remembered for fighting to give women equal rights and the right to vote. In 1979, her picture was placed on the U.S. dollar coin. She was the first woman to be pictured on U.S. money.



3-3.A.3.a

18. This story is a biography because it is about

- A** fighting for the right to vote.
- B** the life of a real person.
- C** something that happened a long time ago.
- D** slavery and money.

3-2.A.4.g

19. Based on what you know about history, when did Susan B. Anthony most likely live?

- A 1500-1586
- B 1615-1701
- C 1820-1906
- D 1893-1979

3-2.A.4.g

20. Quakers believe in

- A justice.
- B peace.
- C voting.
- D teaching.

3-2.A.4.g

21. According to the passage, write a sentence describing what happened in 1979.

3-1.D.3.c

22. If you didn't know the meaning of suffrage, where would you look?

- A a dictionary
- B an encyclopedia
- C an atlas
- D a thesaurus

3-3.A.2.b

23. As it is used in the story, what is the meaning of the word right?

- A the opposite of left
- B correct
- C good, or proper
- D ability given under law

3-3.A.2.b

24. In paragraph 1, what does the word fairness mean?

- A to be fair again
- B the state of being fair
- C to not be fair
- D the opposite of being fair

3-1.D.3.a

25. Which sentence from the story contains an idiom?

- A Susan B. Anthony is best remembered for fighting to give women equal rights.
- B She used the money she made to help her father and his business.
- C She would have bent over backwards to stop slavery.
- D She spent the rest of her life fighting for this right.

3-2.A.4.g

26. What is the most important thing Susan B. Anthony did in her life?

- A She started her own newspaper.
- B She taught school in New York.
- C She fought for women's right to vote.
- D She got her picture on a United States coin.

Ricky's Glasses

Ricky was a boy in the third grade. He had lots of friends and loved going to school. One day the school nurse made Ricky and his classmates read a chart that had a big "E" on it along with other letters. Ricky couldn't read all of the letters, so the nurse made him reread the chart. When Ricky couldn't do it, she made him take a letter home that said his eyesight was weak.

Ricky's mom made an appointment with the eye doctor and picked him up early one day from school. The doctor's office had lots of colorful magazines to look at. After several minutes, a nurse called Ricky's name. The nurse took Ricky to a room and asked him to sit until the doctor came. In the room was a large chair and a tall machine with holes for Ricky to look through. The machine had big dials all over and glass lenses to look through. The doctor came in and let Ricky sit in the large chair. Then Ricky had to look through the little holes in the machine. The doctor made changes to the machine by moving the dials and flipping the glass lenses. After a few changes, Ricky could see all of the letters on the "E" chart.

Next, Ricky got to go into the room with all different pairs of eyeglasses. A nice lady helped Ricky and his mother pick out the perfect pair for him. He couldn't wait to go show his friends at school next week, but the best thing was that he could see everything more clearly.

3-1.B.1.a

27. Which word belongs to the same word family as boy?

- A point
- B child
- C girl
- D toy

3-1.B.1.a

28. Which word has the same vowel sound as the word look?

- A moon
- B pool
- C took
- D school

3-1.B.1.a

29. Which word has the same sound as the "ow" in "now?"

- A pool
- B tower
- C cat
- D so

3-1.D.2.b

30. What two words from the story are synonyms?

- A lots, early
- B tall, round
- C nurse, doctor
- D large, big

3-1.D.2.b

31. Which answer best completes this sentence?

We went to camp for a _____, but I got sick and very _____.

- A weak, week
- B weak, weak
- C week, weak
- D week, week

3-1.D.2.b

32. Which of these words is an antonym of the word all?

- A some
- B none
- C few
- D many

3-1.D.3.a

33. What does the word colorful mean?

- A having lots of color
- B without color
- C very little color
- D some color

3-1.B.2.b

34. Which word is a compound word?

- A clearer
- B eyesight
- C magazines
- D flipping

3-1.B.2.b

35. Which two words make the contraction “couldn’t”?

- A can not
- B could put
- C could not
- D not can

3-5.A.2.b

36. What does the word reread mean?

- A to read louder
- B to stop reading
- C to read before
- D to read again

3-3.A.3.b

37. Which of the following happens first in the story?

- A Ricky gets glasses.
- B Ricky goes to see the school nurse.
- C Ricky goes to the eye doctor.
- D Ricky reads a magazine.